

Patent claims

1. A component (1), particularly for a vehicle, which is capable of folding about a folding axis (2) and is intended to interact with a fastener (7), characterized in that the component (1) comprises a rotating element (3), capable of rotating about an axis of rotation (6), the axis of rotation (6) forming an angle (4) with the folding axis (2) or being arranged offset in relation to the folding axis (2).
2. A component (1) according to the preamble of claim 1, characterized in that a folding produces an elastic stress in the component (1), the elastic stress causing a restoring force, which acts on the component (1).
3. The component (1) as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that a folding produces an elastic stress in the rotating element (3), the elastic stress causing a restoring force, which acts on the component (1).
4. The component (1) as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the component (1) and/or the rotating element (3) is shaped so that the force curve of the restoring force is non-linear.
5. The component (1) as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the restoring force compensates for the gravitational force.
6. The component (1) as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the component (1) comprises two rotating elements (3), at least one of the axes of rotation (6) of the rotating elements (3) forming an angle (4) with the folding axis (2) or

being arranged offset in relation to the folding axis (2).

7. The component (1) as claimed in any one of the
5 preceding claims, characterized in that the two
rotating elements (3) are arranged basically mirror-
symmetrically about an imaginary plane (5)
perpendicular to the folding axis (2).

10 8. The component (1) as claimed in any one of the
preceding claims, characterized in that the angle is
preferably approximately $5^\circ - 15^\circ$.

15 9. The component (1) as claimed in any one of the
preceding claims, characterized in that the rotating
element (3) is cylindrical, particularly in the form of
a pin or tube.

10. A fastener (7) for interaction with a component
20 (1) as claimed in any one of the preceding claims,
characterized in that the fastener (7) comprises a
rotating element (3), the rotating element (3) being
capable of rotating about an axis of rotation (6) which
forms an angle (4) with the folding axis (2) of the
25 component (1) or is arranged offset in relation to the
folding axis (2).

11. The fastener (7) according to the preamble of
claim 10, characterized in that a folding of the
30 component (1) produces an elastic stress in the
fastener (7), the elastic stress causing a restoring
force, which acts upon the component (1).

12. The fastener (7) as claimed in claim 10 or 11,
35 characterized in that it is a seating mount (7) for
supporting the rotating element (3)..